IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A compound ~~comprising~~ that is an agent ~~capable of inhibiting or neutralizing~~ that inhibits or neutralizes the biological activity of macrophage migration inhibitory factor (MIF).

2. (Original) The compound of Claim 1 in which the agent is an antisense molecule complementary to MIF mRNA.

3. (Original) The compound of Claim 1 in which the agent is a ribozyme molecule specific for MIF mRNA.

4. (Original) The compound of Claim 1 in which the agent is a triple helix component.

5. (Original) The compound of Claim 1 in which the agent is an anti-MIF antibody.

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an agent which inhibits or neutralizes macrophage migration inhibitory factor (MIF) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

7. (Original) The composition of Claim 6 in which the agent is an antisense molecule complementary to MIF mRNA.

8. (Original) The composition of Claim 6 in which the agent is a ribozyme molecule specific for MIF mRNA.

9. (Original) The composition of Claim 6 in which the agent is a triple helix component.

10. (Original) The composition of Claim 6 in which the agent is an anti-MIF antibody.

11. (Original) A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder which involves cell overproliferation in a subject comprising administering to a subject in which such treatment or prevention is desired a therapeutically effective amount of an agent which inhibits or neutralizes macrophage migration inhibitory factor (MIF) activity.

12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11 in which the subject is a human.

13. (Original) The method according to Claim 11 in which the disease or disorder is a B cell or T cell lymphoma.

14. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody that immunospecifically binds to migration inhibitory factor (MIF) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a fragment or derivative of an antibody that immunospecifically binds to migration inhibitory factor (MIF), said fragment or derivative containing the binding domain of the antibody, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. (Original) A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder which involves cell overproliferation in a subject comprising administering to a subject in which such treatment or prevention is desired a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody that immunospecifically binds migration inhibitory factor.

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 16 in which the subject is a human.

18. (Original) The method according to Claim 16 in which the disease or disorder is a B cell or T cell lymphoma.

19. (Original) The method according to Claim 16 in which the disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of premalignant conditions, benign tumors, hyperproliferative disorders and benign dysproliferative disorders.

20. (Original) The method according to Claim 16 in which the disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of angiomas and diabetic retiropathy.

20. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) A method of treating or preventing tumor neovascularization in a subject comprising administering to a subject in which such treatment or prevention is

desired a therapeutically effective amount of an agent which inhibits or neutralizes macrophage migration inhibitory factor (MIF) activity.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 22 in which the agent is an antibody that ~~specifically~~ binds to ~~migration inhibitory factor (MIF) activity~~ MIF.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 22 in which the agent is ~~a migration inhibitory factor (MIF) antisense RNA molecule~~ an antisense molecule complementary to MIF mRNA.

25. (New) The method according to Claim 16 in which the disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of esophageal cancer, stomach cancer, renal carcinoma, bladder cancer, breast cancer, colon cancer, lung cancer, melanoma, nasopharyngeal cancer, osteocarcinoma, ovarian cancer and uterine cancer.